CPS Labor Extracts

1979 - 1998

NBER

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(Appendices are on disk in directory /docs)

CPS Labor Extracts

1979 - 1997

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http://www.nber.org/cpsx

Abstract

The Current Population Survey (CPS) is the government monthly household survey of employment and labor markets. It is the source of the unemployment rate announced each month in the popular press. Since 1968 public use micro data files have been available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics for external analysis. In the interest of ease of use, the NBER has prepared a CD-ROM with extracts of the files from 1979 to 1997.

The extracts include individual data for about 30,000 individuals each month for 228 months. The 50 or so variables selected relate to employment: hours worked, earnings, industry, occupation, education, and unionization. The extracts also contain many background variables: age, sex, race, ethnicity, geographic location, etc. Annual income is not among the variables - that question is asked only in March. Aside from standardizing the many different codes used by Census to indicate missing values , most variables are just as created by Census. In a few cases (noted in the documentation) we have recoded variables to enhance uniformity through time.

Credits

The first edition of these extracts was prepared by Larry Katz and Hank Farber. This edition was prepared by Daniel Feenberg, who is responsible for all errors and this documentation. Special thanks to Inna Shapiro, William Gould, David Avtor, Danny Blanchflower, and David Macpherson. Suggestions and corrections should be made to feenberg@nber.org.

Sample:

The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a monthly survey of about 60,000 households. An adult (the reference person) at each household is asked to report on the activities of all other persons in the household. There is a record in the file for each adult person. The universe is the adult non-institutional population.

Each household entering the CPS is administered 4 monthly interviews, then ignored for 8 months, then interviewed again for 4 more months. If the occupants of a dwelling unit move, they are not followed, rather the new occupants of the unit are interviewed. Since 1979 only households in months 4 and 8 have been asked their usual weekly earnings/usual weekly hours. These are the outgoing rotation groups, and each year the BLS gathers all these interviews together into a single *Merged Outgoing Rotation Group File*. A consequence of this construction is that an individual appears only once in any file year, but may reappear in the following year.

The BLS calls these files the Annual Earnings Files, but we prefer the name Merged Outgoing Rotation Groups, because there is no information in the file on annual earnings. Only hourly or weekly earnings are recorded.

The sample is stratified to provide better estimates for minorities and smaller political jurisdictions. Weights are provided for the preparation of descriptive values and tabulations.

All persons 16 years of age or over are included in the extracts.

CD-ROM Structure:

In the fourth edition the data are provided as a series of annual STATA .dta files. Each contains all outgoing rotation groups for a single year between 1979 and 1997. From within STATA any file can be loaded with a use statement. For example, if the CD-ROM is drive D:, then the statements:

```
set memory=32m
use d:\morg\annual\morg79
```

will load the entire 1979 file. As each year is 25-28 megabytes, you may wish to restrict the data loaded. Here is an example that retrieves two variables for January only:

use weight veteran if intmonth==1 using d:\morg\annual\morg79

If you append records from the next year you will get repeated observations on the same individual, and you would want to worry about your standard errors, possibly using the Huber option on the regression command.

Alternatives to STATA:

As noted, the extracts are STATA binary save files. These files are compact and portable across operating systems and hardware platforms. Users without STATA may be interested in the IBM-PC program STAT/TRANSFER. This program can translate STATA files into other formats. For example:

transfer morg79.dta morg79.tpt

will generate a file in SAS XPORT format. Among statistical packages supported are SPSS, SAS, and Systat. Database packages supported include Alpha 4, dBase, Foxbase and Clipper.

Only recent versions of STAT/Transfer will correctly read STATA files generated in non-Intel byte order, such as these.

Complete copies of the entire content of the raw data files are available from Unicon Inc.

Vendors Mentioned:

Stata Corporation 702 University Drive College Station TX 77840 409-696-4600 800-782-8272 stata@stata.com

Publications Department NBER 1050 Mass. Ave. Cambridge MA 02138 617-868-3900 orders@nber.org Circle Systems (Stat/Transfer) 1001 Fourth Ave Place #3200 Seattle WA 98154 206-682-3783 stsales@circlesys.com http://www.stattransfer.com

Unicon Inc. 1640 Fifth Street Santa Monica CA 90401 310-393-4636

The data dictionary:

In the dictionary below, for each variable a header line gives:

- 1. The variable name in the 1989 CPS documentation from the BLS.
- 2. The variable name in the CD-ROM STATA .dta files.
- 3. The range of values for that variable.
- 4. The years for which that variable is available.
- 5. The universe for non-missing values.

Following the header is a description of the variable, and the possible values it may take on. Sometimes a variable definition changes through time, which will be noted. Major changes in variable definitions have led to the creation of distinct variable name, usually by appending a two digit year to the variable name. Small changes are tolerated and noted in the description. The source for all variable documentation is from the 1978, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1986 1989,1992, 1994, and 1995 versions of ``Attachment A of the Current Population Survey Interview Record Layout, BLS Monthly Microdata File, Basic Survey, (January.)'' CPS Documentation for March Survey is very different. Copies of the CPS layouts are on the CD-ROM in .PDF format , in the ./docs directory.

Misc. variables

h-hhnum	hhid	12 digits	79-	all

Item 9. This is a unique household identifier. The hhid may be used to match dwelling units across years - households are not followed if they move. Due to the structure of the survey approximately 50% of units (those with minsamp equal to 4) will appear again in the Be sure to check minsamp when matching, or false next year. matches may be found. The STATA Technical Bulletin no 12 pages 7-9 contains an article by Finis Welch on matching individuals across years. Every recent CPS documentation set includes a section on merging CPS samples across years, the main point being that while matching households is supported by the household id, there are no individual identifiers, so within household matches must be done with age, intmonth, and sex. Finally, there is no matching possible between January to September 1985 and 1986, or between July to December 1984 and 1985 , or between June to December 1994 and 1995, or between January to August 1995 and 1996 because of a sample redesigns.

h-mis <u>minsamp</u> 4 or 8 79- all

Month in Sample. Each household entering the CPS is interviewed for 4 months, then ignored for 8 months, then interviewed again for 4 more months. So for any household minsamp 8 occurs exactly one year after minsamp 4. Only households in interview months 4 and 8 are asked their usual weekly earnings/usual weekly hours. So each household appears precisely twice in an outgoing rotation group, and those are the only households included in the extracts.

h-year <u>year</u> 79-97 79- all Interview year (last two digits).

h-month intmonth 1 - 12 79- all

Interview calendar month. Matching households in successive years should have the same intmonth. A few do not, reasons unknown.

		January	January 1		
		 December		12	
a_fnlwgt	<u>weight</u>	0-20549	79-		all

This is the Final Weight. The sum of the Final Weights in each monthly survey is the US non-institutional population. The outgoing rotation group includes one-fourth of that population. The CD-ROM excludes persons under 16 years of age. So one MORG file is onefourth the population 16 years of age and over, and a year of MORG files would sum to 3 times that population. Zero weights appear in some years, for records of unknown function. The implied two decimals on the tapes are explicit here. What weight to use for a cross tabulation of an earning related question with a non-earnings related question is an open question.

a_ecrnlwt <u>earnwt</u> 836-77523 79- all

Earnings weight for all races. Used for tabulating earnings related items. Since the CD-ROM includes all persons asked earning questions, this sums to the total population each month. This is not precisely 4 times the <u>weight</u>, presumably because the Census has external knowledge of the size and composition of the labor force. The implied two decimals on the tapes are explicit here.

4

Geography

hg_st60 <u>state</u> 11-95 79- all

1960 Census Code for state. First digit of state code is division code. These codes do not change.

New England Di	vision	East South Cent	tral
Maine New Hampshire Vermont Massachusetts Rhode Island	11 12 13 14 15	Kentucky Tennessee Alabama Mississippi	61 62 63 64
Connecticut	16	West South Cent	tral
Middle Atlanti	c Division	Arkansas Louisiana	71 72
New York New Jersey Pennsylvania	21 22 23	Oklahoma Texas Mountain	73 74
East North Cen	tral Division		
Ohio Indiana Illinois Michigan Wisconsin	31 32 33 34 35	Montana Idaho Wyoming Colorado New Mexico Arizona Utah	81 82 83 84 85 86 87
West North Cen	tral Division	Nevada	88
Minnesota Iowa Missouri	41 42 43	Pacific	
North Dakota South Dakota Nebraska Kansas	44 45 46 47	Washington Oregon California Alaska Hawaii	91 92 93 94 95
South Atlantic			
Delaware Maryland D.C. Virginia West Virginia North Carolina South Carolina Georgia			

Florida 59

The city coding system changes in October 1985 from one based on 57 SMSA identifiers with each SMSA divided into a central city and non-central city component to a more complex system of 252 CMSA (Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas) identifiers, some subdided into as many as 12 PMSAs (Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas) and up to 5 different Individual Central City Codes. In April of 1994 the rank codes for cities are dropped, but the MSA FIPS codes are retained. In 1995 the 1993 modification to the MSA/FIPS codes are adopted. I have been warned by the BLS that all SMSA coding for 1995 is suspect. Users should understand that the geographic coverage of metropolitan areas increases through time, and not only in Census years.

h-metsta <u>smsastat</u> 1-2 79- all

Metropolitan Status Code. The status of any given location may change in 1986. Not Identifiable was coded as 3 or -1 on the BLS tapes.

Metropolitan	1
Non-metropolitan	2
Not Identifiable	missing

hg-msas <u>centcity</u> 1-3 79- all

Central City Code. This looks like more information than smsastat, but many records identified in smsastat are not-identifiable here. Not Identifiable was coded as 4 or -1 on the BLS tapes.

			Central City Balance of SMSA Non SMSA Not Identifiable	1 2 3 missing
na	<u>smsa70</u>	1-2	79-85:9	SMSAs
	us SMSA size cate ober 1985.	egories.	See next entry for	same variable
			3 million plus 1-3 million not identifiable	1 2 missing

hg-mssz	<u>smsa80</u>	2-8	85:10-95:9	SMSAs
	<u>smsa93</u>	2-7	95:10-	SMSAs

1983 Population Estimates for the MSA/CMSA. In the original tape, 0 and 1 are used for missing values before 1994, then -1. In 1994 this becomes the population of the CMSA/MSA and the 2 largest categories are combined.

not identifiable	missing
100,000-249,000	2
250,000-499,999	3
500,000-999,999	4
1-2.5 million	5
2.5-5 million	б
5 – 10 million	7
10 million plus	8

na smsarank 0-57 79-85:6 all

The CPS uses the 1970 Census ranking to identify SMSAs from 1973 to 1985. See Appendix E for codes. This value is missing for all records during the 3rd quarter of 1985, and the cmsarank variable starts in the 4^{th} quarter - no similar information is provided for 1985:7-9.

not	an	SMSA			0
1970) ra	ınk	1	-	57

hg_msar <u>cmsarank</u> 1-252 86-94:3

CMSA/MSA Rank Code. See Appendix F List 1 for list of codes. Use caution in 1995 as the new sampling frame is introduced.

not a CMSA	missing
1980 rank	1 - 252

hg_pmsa pmsarank 1-12 86-94:3

PMSA rank code identifies PMSAs within a CMSA. See Appendix F List 2 for codes.

non-divided CMSA	missing
PMSA code	1 - 12

h-inducc <u>icntcity</u> 1-4 86-

Individual Central City Codes identify individual central cities within CMSAs with more than one central city. See Appendix F List

3 for codes.		Other 1980 CC code	missing 1 - 4
hg-msac <u>msafips</u>	80-9340 80-9360	89-94 95-	smsastat=1
Metropolitan Statis codes. This code is			
		not an MSA 1980 MSA code	0 1 - 9340
hg-cmsa <u>cmsacode</u>	7-91 7-97	89-94 95-	
Consolidated Metro Appendix F.	politan Statistic	cal Area Code.	See List 5 of
		not o CMCA	0

not a CMSA		0		
1980 CMSA code		7	_	91
	or	7	_	97

Demography

a-sex	sex	1-2	79-	all	
Item 18g.	There are miss	ing values	in 1985, and 1	989 on.	
			male female	1 2	
na	race	1-3	79-88	all	
	detail is offe for 1996 on.	ered for 19	989 on. But ther	re is no '	other'
			White Black Other	1 2 3	
a-race	race	1-5 1-4	89- 95 96-		all
Item 18J.				89-95 9	б-
100.			White Black American India Asian or Pacif:		1 2 3
			Islander Other	4 5	4

a-reorgn <u>ethnic</u> 1-9 79- all

Item 18k. This variable subdivides the Hispanic community by national origin of ancestry. Non-hispanics were sometimes coded as `A' or '10' on the original BLS tapes. In the extracts non-hispanic is coded always as '8'. In 1994 only undocumented values of 11-13 appear.

a-age <u>age</u> 16-99 79- all

Years of age. The CPS documentation claims that this is topcoded at 90 years of age, but values up to 99 are found for 1979-1985.

A-maritl	marital	1-7	79-	all
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Item 18e. Marital status at time of enumeration. Until 1989 Widowed Divorced and separated were grouped, however in all years, <4 is married, otherwise single. In the original data 5 is used for Never Married until 1989.

Married civilian spouse present	1	
Married AF spouse present	2	
Married spouse absent or separated	3	
Widowed or divorced (Through 88)	4	
Widowed (After 88)	4	
Divorced "	5	
Separated "		
Never Married	7	

a-vet veteran 1-6 79- sex=1 before 1989 then all Item 18g. Female veterans are not distinguished until 1989. A disadvantage of the coding scheme adopted in the CPS is difficulty of adding new wars in sequence, hence no coding for the Gulf war.

Vietnam Era	
Korean War	2
World War II	3
World War I	4
Other Service	5
Non-veteran	6

na <u>gradeat</u> 0-18 79-91 all

Item 18h. Highest grade of school attended. In the original BLS coding for 1979-1988 the value coded for education is one more than the actual grade, so 13 was coded for a person who has at least started the senior year of high school. In 1989-1991 the actual grade is coded, without adding one. So that senior in high school is coded as 12 in the later system. The first edition CD-ROM maintains the BLS coding system, while the current (second) edition recodes the 1979-1988 values using the later system. If you are accustomed to the BLS system read this paragraph closely - the old BLS coding is not used here!

			no schooling First grade	0 1
			 12th grade	12
a-hgc	gradecp	1-2	79-91	all

Item 18. Was highest graded attended completed?

Yes No 1

2

a-hga	<u>grade92</u>	31-46	92-	all
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Item 18h. Highest grade attended. In 1992 the BLS switched from a years of schooling measure to a more credential oriented measure. Rumor has it that a labor economist who estimated wage equations for 1991 and 1992 without noticing the difference in the CPS education measure was surprised only by the change in the constant term.

Less than 1st grade	31
1st – 4th grade	32
5th or 6th	33
7th or 8th	34
9th	35
10th	36
11th	37
12th grade NO DIPLOMA	38
High school graduate, diploma or GED	39
Some college but no degree	40
Associate degree in college Occupational	
or vocational program	41
Associate degree in college Academic	
program	42
Bachelor's degree (e.g. BA,AB,BS)	43
Master's degree (e.g. MA,MS,MEng,Med,MSW,MBA	4)44
Professional school degree	
(e.g. MD,DDS,DVM,LLB,JD)	45
Doctorate degree (e.g. PhD, EdD)	46

na	relahh	1-6	79-88	all

Item 18b. Relationship to household head. This is recoded from Relationship to reference person.

Head with other relatives 1 Head with no other relatives 2 Wife of head 3 Other relative of head 4 Non-relative of head with own relatives (includes wife)5 Non-relative of head with no own relatives 6

a-rrp	<u>relaref</u>	1-10	89-93	all
	<u>relref94</u>	1-12	94-	

Slightly more detail is available for 94 on. In 1995 the partner category is further expanded to distinguish among roommates, partners and boarders, but this is not yet carried over to the extracts. I was very pleased to note that the additional categories were added at the end, without disturbing existing definitions. relaref relref94

Reference person with other relative in HHLD 1 1 Reference person with no other relatives 2 2 3 3 Husband 4 3 Wife 5 Own Child 4 б Parent 6 Brother or sister 7 7 Other relative of reference person 8 8 Non relative of reference persion with own relatives in HHLD 9 10 Non relative of reference person with no own relatives in HHLD 10 12 Partner/Roommate 11 Grandchild 5 9 Foster Child

penatvty <u>penatvty</u> 57-555 94- all

Country of birth. See codes in Appendix G.

pemntvty <u>pemntvty</u>	57-555	94-	all
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Mother's country of birth. See codes in Appendix G.

pefntvty pefntvty 57-555 94- all

Father's country of birth. See codes in Appendix G.

Prcitshp prcitshp 1-5 94- all

Citizenship status.

Native, born in US1Native, born in Puerto Rico or US Outlying Area2Native, born abroad of American Parent(s)3Foreign born, US citizen by naturalization4Foreign born, Not a citizen of the US5

prcitflg prcitflg 0-53 94- all

Citizenship allocation flag. The various allocation codes are documented (but not explained) in the CPS documentation and are not repeated here.

Unallocated	0
Allocated	1-53

Peinusyr <u>peinusyr</u> 0-14 94- prcitshp>1

Immigrant's year of entry. Why is this asked every month? Incredibly, BLS has planned in advance for the last few code meanings to change every year! The difference between the first two values is unknown.

1988-1989 11 1990-1991 12 1992-1995 13 Starting January 1996	1988-1989111990-1991121992-199513	Not in Universe (Born in US Not Foreign Born Before 1950 1950-1959 1960-1964 1965-1969 1970-1974 1975-1979 1980-1981 1982-1983 1984-1985 1986-1987	-1 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10
Starting January 1996	1992–1993 13	1988-1989 1990-1991	11 12
		Starting January 1996	

14

1994-1997

Wages

Earnings are collected per hour for hourly workers, and per week for other workers. If you want a consistent hourly wage series during entire period, you should use earnwke/uhourse. This gives imputed hourly wage for weekly workers and actual hourly wage for hourly workers. But check earnwke for top-coding.

a\$hrlywk	<u>paidh</u>	<u>r</u>	1-2				79-	93		elig	fible	9
Unedited	Item 25	b. Is.	paid	by	the	hour	on	this	job?	[This	job	is

		Yes No	1 2
a-hrlywk <u>paidhre</u>	1-2	79-	eligible

Edited item 25b. Is...paid by the hour on this job?

the current job from uhourse below.]

			Yes No	1 2
a\$hrpay	earnhr	0-9999	79-93	a-hrlywk=1

Item 25c. Earning per hour? (In pennies). This is truncated so that when multiplied by usual hours the result is never more than \$100,000 per year. Also, in some years a maximum of 9900 is enforced.For 1979 to 1984 earnhr and earnhre are top coded at 99.99. For 1985 on , the top code depends on hours worked and is selected so that earning per hour times usual hours is not more than 1923.07 per week. After examining the data we note that the top code is not uniformly applied. While there is always a density peak at the top code amount, a similar number of observations are generally present at higher wage rates. You are cautioned to test for wages at or above the top code, if appropriate.

a-herntp <u>earnhre</u> 0-9999 79- a-hrlywk=1

Edited Item 25c. Earnings per hour? (In pennies). Before 1989 this is always 50 cents or more. Some years this is limited to a range of 50 - 9900. In 1994 a value of 1 cent is converted to missing. The lower bound is 10 cents in 1994 but 20 cents in 1995. Top coding is the same as for earnhr.

17

a\$brswk <u>uearnwk</u> 0-1999 79-93 eligible

Item 25d. Earnings per week. How much does...usually earn per week at this job before deductions? Dollars. Three digits are allowed before 1989. For 1992 on this field is top coded at 1923. Use this field (or uearnwke) for hourly workers.

a-brswk uearnwke 0-1999 79-88 eligible

Edited Item 25d. Earnings per week. How much does...usually earn per week at this job before deductions? Dollars.

a-werntp <u>earnwke</u> 0-1999 79- eligible

Edited or computed earnings per week in this job. For hourly workers, computed Item 25a times Item 25c appears here. For weekly workers, edited Item 25a appears here. Three digits before 1989. Also for 1989 on, there are no zero values, suggesting an undocumented change in universe. Use this field for salary workers and hourly workers 1989 and after. Use uearnwke for hourly workers before 1989.

a%uslhrs	<u>125a</u>	0-4	79-	eligible
a%uslhrs	<u>125b</u>	н	11	н
a%hrspay	<u>125c</u>	н	79-93	н
a%grswk	<u>125d</u>	11	н	a-hrlywk=1

These are allocation flags for the items I25a through I25d. An item may be edited but not allocated, i.e. a correction. In the pre 1989 tapes 'not allocated' is indicated by a missing value indicator. This has been changed to 0 on CD-ROM for consistency with the 1989 on coding. I25a > 0 always means that usual hours are allocated on the CD-ROM in any year.

Not allocated	0
allocated	1

For 1989 to 1993 the coding scheme is:

no change				
value	to	blank	1	
blank	to	value	2	
value	to	value	3	
blank	to	MA error	4	

I25c never shows a value of 4.

For 1994 and beyond allocation flags range from 0 to 53.Non-zero values signify allocated data. The types of allocations are in an appendix to the CPS documentation

Employment

For the employed, current job is the job held in the reference week (the week before the survey). Persons with 2 or more jobs are classified in the job at which they worked the most hours during the reference week. The unemployed are classified according to their latest full time job lasting two weeks or more or by the current job (full or part-time). The industry and occupation questions are also asked of departing rotations (dp) not in the labor force who have worked in the last five years. The universe for I&O is all private workers for pay, as defined by the edited class of worker variable. The universe for class of worker variables is approximately those working, or who have worked in the last 12 months or 5 years. It isn't usually clear from the documentation which. In some years non-workers may be in the universe only if their past job was full-time.

a\$clswkr	<u>class</u>	1-8	79-93
a-clswkr	<u>classer1</u>	1-8	89-93
	<u>class94</u>	1-8	94-

Item 23e, class of worker. Class and classer1 have the same coding, a-clswkr is the edited version of a\$clswkr. Note that the years of availability are not the same. Class94 has a new coding to distinguish between non-profit and for-profit employment. Other changes are gratuitous.

cla cla	lss lsserl	class94
Private, for profit	1	4
Private, non-profit	1	5
Federal Government	2	1
State Government	3	2
Local Government	4	3
Self-employed (incorporated)	5	б
Self-employed (not incorporated)	6	7
Without pay	7	8
Never worked or never worked		
full-time	8	missing

na	<u>classer</u>	1-5	79-88	as above
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Edited and recoded class of worker.

Private	1
Government	2
Self-employed	3
Without pay	4
Never Worked or never worked	
full-time	5

a = 1 COW Classels $1 = 7$ $0 = 95$ as abo	a-rcow	.asser2	1-7	89-93	as above
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Edited and recoded a\$clswkr. The self employed (incorporated) category seems to have been absorbed into self employed unincorporated.

			private federal government state government local government self employed unincorp without pay never worked	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
a-lfsr	<u>esr</u> lfsr89	1-7 1-7	79-88 89-93	all

1-7

Employment Status Recode (Last week). This is later called the Labor Force Status Recode. A value 0 of undefined meaning occurs in 1989 only. The universe is civilian adults.

	esr	Lfsr89	lfsr94	
Working	1	1	1	Ε
With a job, not at work	2	2	2	Ε
Looking	3	3	4	U
Layoff		4	3	w
Housework	4			NILF
School	5			w
Unable to work	6		б	w
Working w/o pay		5		"
Unavailable for work		б		w
Other (Includes Retired) 7	7	5/7	w

94-

na <u>ind70</u> 17-937 79-82

lfsr94

This is the 3-digit Industry Classification from the 1970 Census. See Appendix A for codes. This variable is present on the BLS tape in 1983, but is not to be relied on and is not included in the extracts. a-ind ind80 10-991 83-

Item 23b. This is the 3 digit Industry Classification Code from the 1980 Census. See Appendix B for codes.

dind 1-52 79-

This is an NBER created 2-digit Detailed Industry Classification Code that is consistent over all the years covered. See appendix A. The BLS supplied 2-digit industry codes are so inconsistent with 3digit data that they have been dropped from the CD-ROM extracts.

na <u>occ70</u> 1-984 79-82

This is the 3 digit Occupational Classification from the 1970 Census. This variable is present on the original tape in 1983, but is not to be relied on for that year. See Appendix C for codes.

a-occ <u>occ80</u> 3-905 83-

This is the 3 digit Occupational Classification from the 1980 Census. See Appendix D for codes. Changes after 1991 are noted in Appendix F.

na <u>docc70</u> 0-44 79-82 ????

This is the 2-digit Detailed Occupation Recode from the 1970 Census. See Appendix C for codes. For 1983 the CPS documentation shows a field with this definition, but the contents of the field are inappropriate.

a-dtocc docc 1-46 83-

This is the 2-digit Detail Occupation Recode from the 1980 Census. The 1979-1982 3-digit classification would not easily be coded into this form. a-ernel eligible 1-2 79:6- all

Eligibility Flag. This flag marks non-self-employed workers for pay. In the original files "1" always marks a private worker for pay, but the alternative may be "0" or missing, depending on the year. For the CD-ROM these later values are translated to "2" for consistency. Note that this variable starts in mid- 1979.

ESR=1 & classer=1 & class<5 1 other 2

1-7 a-majact activlwr 79-93 Edited Item 19. What was...doing most of LAST WEEK (Major Activity)? working 1 with a job 2 3 looking for work 4 keeping house at school 5 6 unable to work other/retired 7 After 1988, other is split into two categories: retired 7 other 8 a\$majact doinglw 79-93 1-8 civilians Unedited and unallocated Item 19. What was...doing most of LAST WEEK? Codes are the same as a-majact above. 0-99 79-93 a-hrs1 hourslwa ESR=1 Unedited Item 20A. How many hours did...work last week at all jobs? a\$uslhrs uhours 0-99 79-93 eligible Item 25a. How many hours does...usually work at this job? 0-99 79a-uslhrs uhourse eliqible Edited Item 25a. How many hours does...usually work at this job? [1989 trough 1993 the range is 1-99.] The allocation flag for this variable is noted with the earnings variables above. For 1994 on the answer 'hours vary' is translated to missing in the extracts. uhours35 1-2 79-93 a\$uslft ESR=1 & item 20a<35 Unedited and unallocated Item 20c. Does...USUALLY work 35 hours or more a week at this job? Part 1. blank missing Yes 1

all

No

2

na <u>hourslw</u> 1-99 79-

Edited item 20a. How many hours did...work last week at all jobs? For 1994 and after this is allowed to go to 198 hours on the original tape. This is truncated on the CD-ROM.

a-ftreas	<u>reasonlw</u>	1-15	79-93	ESR=1 &
pehruslt	<u>reason94</u>	1-13	94-	Item 20a<35

Edited Item 20c. Does...USUALLY work 35 hours or more a week at this job? Part 2. The reasons are the same as for a\$ftreas (below).

a-whyabs	<u>absentlw</u>	1-8	79-93	item21=1
peabsrsn	absent94	1-14	94-	

Item 21a. Why was...absent from work last week?

absent	tlw	absent94
Own illness	1	5
On vacation	2	4
Bad weather	3	10
Labor dispute	4	9
New job to begin within 30 days	5	3
Temporary layoff (under 30 days)	6	1
Indefinite layoff (30 days or more)	7	1
Other	8	14
Slack work / business conditions		2
Child care problems		б
Other family / personal		7
Maternity / paternity		8
School / training		11
Civic / military		12
Does not work		13

a\$ftreas pehrrsn3	1-15 1-23	79-93 94-	ESR=1 & Item 20A<35
more a we	Item 20c. Does. ? Part 2. In 1 d.	-	
		why35 Reasonlw Full	why3594 reason94 -time Part- time

	missing		
Slack work	1	1	14
Material shortage	2		
Plant or machine repair	3		
New job started during week	4	3	
Job terminated during week	5	3	
Could find only part-time work	б		15
Holiday	7	6	
Labor dispute	8	9	
Bad weather	9	10	
Own illness	10	5	19
On vacation	11	4	
Too busy with house, school, e	tc. 12		
Did not want full-time work	13		
Full-time work week under 35 h	ours 14		
Other	15	13	23
Seasonal	_0	2	16
Child care problems		7	17
Other family obligations		8	18
School/training		11	-
Civic/military		12	20
-	naa	上厶	21
Social Security limit on earni	1195		Δ⊥

na	<u>ftpt79</u>	0-5	79-88	civilians
		Full-time or part-t Not in labor force Employed full-time Part-time for econor Unemployed full-time Employed part-time Unemployed part-time	mic reasons e	0 1 2 3 4 5

a-wkstat	<u>ftpt89</u>	1-7	89-93	all
prwkstat	<u>ftpt94</u>	1-12	94-	

I don't know if these categories fully enumerate the possibilities, or what 'economic reasons' might be.

				ftpt89	ft	pt94
	Not in lab Full-time			1 2		1 2
	usual	-economic reas	ons	3 4		3 7
	PT for eco usual Unemployed Unemployed	FT		5 6 7		6 11 12
	not at work usually FT PT for non-economic reasons usually FT FT usually PT for economic reasons FT usually PT for non-economic reasons Not at work usually PT					5 4 8 9 10
na	<u>ptstat</u>	0,5,6	79-	-88		all
Part-time		all other voluntary part part-time for			5	0 5 6
a-ftpt	<u>studftpt</u>	1-2	84-		16-24	years

Item 26b. Is...enrolled in a school as a full-time or part-time student [this week]? (There is no documentation for a code for nonstudents, but they are coded as missing).

Union variables

unionmm	<u>unionmm</u>	1-2	84-93	I25=2&dp
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Item 25E (Unedited). On this job, is... a member of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union? The CPS documentation claims that the universe is all departing rotations, but class<5 (Private or government worker for pay) would seem to be the actual universe.

			Yes No	1 2	
a_unmem	<u>unionmme</u>	1-2	83-		I25E=2&dp

Item 25E (Edited). On this job, is...a member of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union? The universe is subject to the same comment mentioned under unionmm above.

			Yes No	1 2	
a_uncov	<u>unioncov</u>	1-2	83-		a_unmem=2

Item 25F (Edited). On this job, is...covered by a union or employee association contract? (Note universe: What about union members not covered by a contract?)

Yes	1
No	2